

# The Brethren Evangelist,

ASHLAND, OHIO.

A. D. GNAGEY, : : Editor.

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## A GOOD IDEA.

In this issue will be found an article by brother J. C. Mackey, of Meyersdale, Pa., entitled, "Appointment of Pastoral Charges." It will be remembered that this is the topic assigned to Brother Mackey for discussion at the National Conference. The manuscript was prepared and sent us for publication with a view of giving our people an opportunity to read, think and meditate, until time of conference. We believe this to be a good idea, as the introduction of anything new is always viewed with more or less suspicion. This will give ample time for the most careful consideration of the subject, and enables people to come to conference prepared to discuss the question, and vote upon it intelligently. All important papers—papers advocating changes in our church polity—should be published prior to the conference. This would give people a better opportunity to judge of the merits of the paper, and establish a safeguard against dangerous measures.

## TO THE POINT.

The remarks by Brother Talley on the Conference question in this issue, are "straight to the point." Why not spend one week together? There is no reason why we should not come together on Tuesday and remain over Sabbath. Let us take time for the work of the Master. There is much to do, and the work is of such a nature that it should not be done hurriedly. Every congregation should give its pastor a whole week's vacation, for conference work. Do not ask your pastor to preach the Sabbath after the National Conference, even if he should return in time for such service. The minister who preaches as Brother Talley describes in his article deserves, not a week only, but a whole month's vacation. It was our privilege a few weeks ago to listen to a master sermon, by De Witte Miller. He said the minister who works faithfully eleven months in a year is entitled to one month's vacation, and the minister who does not perform his duties faithfully, should have twelve month's vacation.

We believe that it would work for good if we could extend the time of these conferences from three to *seven* days. Board at the Hall will be furnished so cheap, that it would cost you as much, if you were to remain and board at home. Then why not spend a week together planning for the Master's work, and getting acquainted with each other. Our ablest ministers in the pulpits of the Ashland churches, on Sabbath will have a very wholesome influence, make friends for the college and the church.

## CAMP MEETING.

We are in receipt of a large poster, announcing the program of a camp meeting to be held near Croton, N. J., under the auspices of the Brethren church of Philadelphia, Pa., beginning August 1 and closing August 20. Judging from the announcement, the meeting promises to be an imposing affair. Ministers, Missionary Workers, Evangelists, Temperance Orators and S. S. Workers from Philadelphia and other parts of the country will participate. Among the special features mentioned, we quote the following from the bill:

Grand Chorus, to be organized and conducted by Prof. J. M. Bowman, a popular musical director of the South.

Baptisms on Saturday nights, August 3, 10 and 17 by Trine Immersion in the camp.

Tuesday, August 6, Evangelistic Day.

Thursday, August 8, Prohibition Rally.

Tuesday, August 13, Endeavor Convention.

Thursday, August 15, Children's Day.

Monday night, August 19, An Apostolic Communion Service.

Tuesday night, August 20, Closing Exercises. Farewell meeting. Pilgrims marching around Jerusalem.

The Bible our only creed. All God's people of every name are heartily invited to participate. Board and lodging at very reasonable rates. Meals served on the ground. Horses fed and cared for.

With such a plan of work outlined we have reasons to expect great results. In all services of the kind above described, there is danger of too much "religious worldliness," but when led by such men as I. D. Bowman, and backed by a deeply spiritual people, such as the Philadelphia brethren, there is nothing to fear from this source. Will Brother Bowman please keep us informed as the work of the meeting progresses from day to day.

## A WORD OF COMMENT.

I am not displeased with the editorial criticism on my article entitled, "Our Church Paper." Indeed if others drew the same conclusion from it that the editor seems to have gathered, I am greatly misunderstood and it is important to me that I should know it. I regarded my caption sufficiently expressive to preclude the idea of a "free rostrum" to all the world. To my mind a *church organ* can only allow its columns to be used to advance the interests of the church. When they become filled with matter inimical to the cause of the church it ceases to be the *organ* of the church. With this idea firmly fixed in my own mind I wrote the principles that should control "OUR CHURCH PAPER," and I have had no occasion to change my mind as yet, but it appears that I failed to properly qualify my views, and now that my dear brother, the editor, has done it so completely for me I will not waste time and space on it myself. I accept his views concerning the outside world and other churches.

The other point of difference between us as to what is Gospel, and what is not, I care not to further discuss at this time. I have evidence that the editor has either modified his rule, or his views, and am quite confident that the difference will quietly vanish in the course of time without any great effort on the part of either of us. There are quiet but strong spiritual forces at work which will penetrate every true heart as the Lord prepares his people for his coming, and I have no doubt that in due time our editor, and the mass of our people will be found on the right side of all vital questions.

JACOB CASSEL.

## REMARKS.

The above is Brother Cassel's interpretation of his article on "Our Church Paper," and is entirely satisfactory. If his former article had given as clear an idea of what is meant by a "free rostrum," there would have been no need of any explanation on our part. In his comments, Brother Cassel clearly defines the *limits* of a free rostrum, and it meets our approval in every particular. Brother Cassel admits that only such articles should be admitted into the columns of the church organ, as will advance the interests of the church. Here exactly is the critical point. Who shall be the judge as to what is to the best interests of the church? One man may advocate a theory which in his own mind and heart he sincerely believes, will advance the interests of the church and the cause of the Master. An-